



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 1/23/07
#2

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Ref: DO039-07
January 22, 2007

Representative Rick Ripley, Chairman
Natural Resource & Conservation Subcommittee
State Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Chairman Ripley:

The Block Management Program is very popular, and has been very successful at increasing public access for hunting while protecting landowner interests. During the discussion of the Program, the subcommittee asked Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) how many landowners wanted to be in the Block Management Program but were unable to due to limited funding available.

Potential new cooperators are identified through various means, including individuals contacting FWP formally and asking to be placed on a waiting list for future enrollment consideration, individuals contacting FWP field staff and discussing possible future enrollment in the program, and by FWP identifying potential candidates in high-priority areas or offering high-priority hunting opportunities and making initial contacts to identify potential interest in future enrollment. At the end of the 2005 hunting season, regional program coordinators reported that approximately 203 potential new cooperators had indicated interest in enrolling if funds became available.

This information is found on Page 8 of the 2007 Private Land / Public Wildlife Advisory Council report to the Governor and the 60th legislature.

Please contact me at 444-9817 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Larry G. Peterman
FWP Chief of Field Operations